

- To meet its clean energy and greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction goals,

Connecticut must deploy large amounts of local solar and storage.

- Building these resources represents a significant economic opportunity for businesses in the state, creating local jobs and stimulating economic development.

- However, because of outdated and unnecessary regulations, more than half of interested business owners and municipalities cannot reduce their electric costs by installing solar on their premises.

- As a result of these and other constraints, Connecticut is failing to meet its greenhouse gas emission reduction targets<sup>1</sup> and is forced to rely on grid-scale and out-of-state resources.

- CT legislators can address this problem this session by amending S.B. 176 to increase the cap on commercial solar from 50 to 100 megawatts (MW) and the cap on Shared Clean Energy Facilities (SCEF) from 25 to 50 MW.

- Local solar is a powerful tool to advance energy equity; expanding it will disproportionately benefit underserved populations.

- Commercial solar is sited on a business's premises, and reduces the need to take up farmland and forests.

- Local solar and storage create a more resilient and lower-cost electric grid.<sup>2</sup> Raising these program caps can be done at negligible, short-term ratepayer cost.

- Connecticut residents overwhelmingly support increased solar in the state.<sup>3</sup> But until we make our voices heard, that support will not translate into action.

- o Email testimony on S.B. 176 to [ettestimony@cga.ct.gov](mailto:ettestimony@cga.ct.gov)

- o Reach out to your state senator and representative and ask them to support the expansion of S.B. 176 to increase the commercial caps.

Thank you, Wayne Pipke